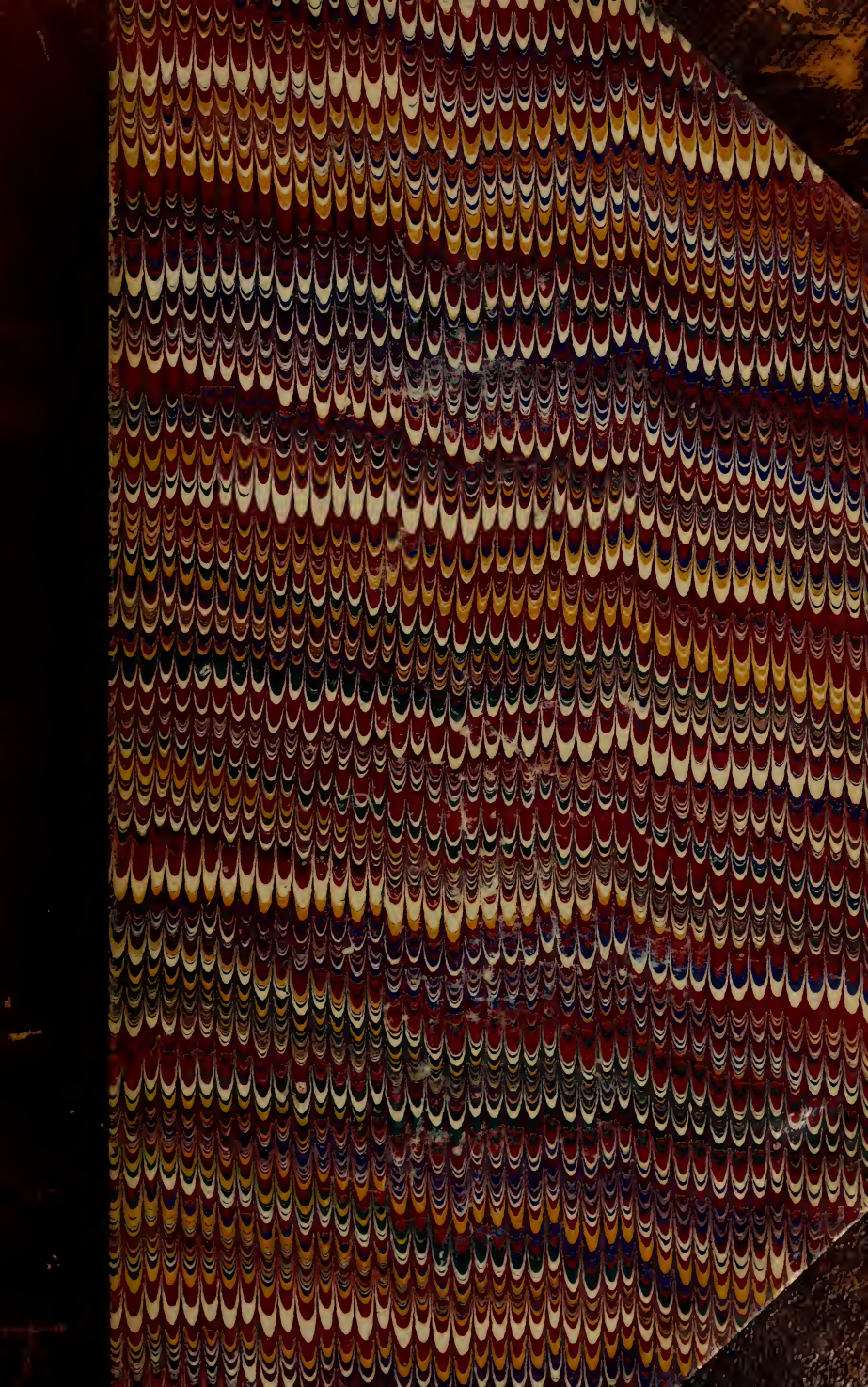
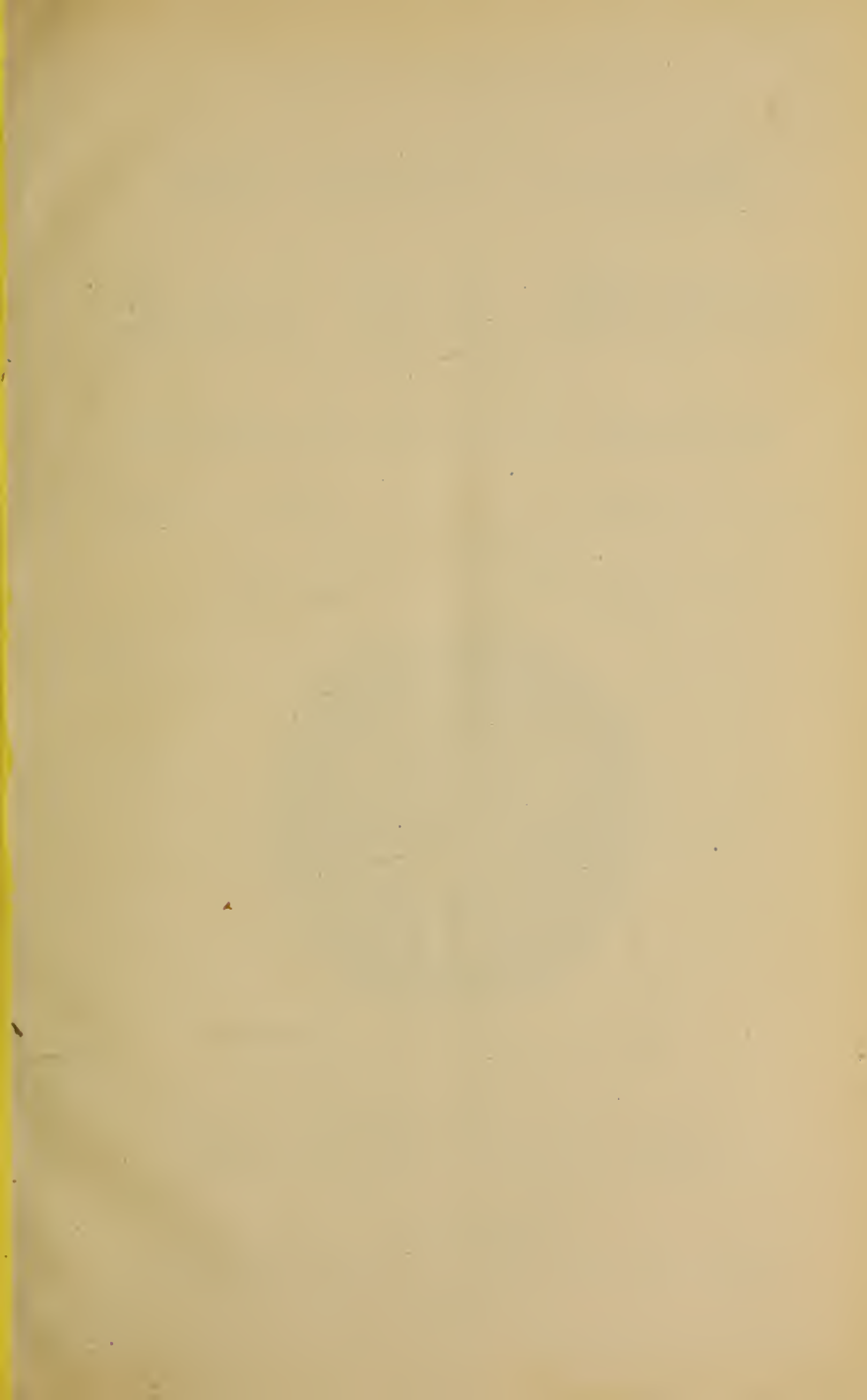








PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE GRAND CHAPTER
OF
Royal Arch Masons
OF CANADA,

From its Formation, on the 20th Jan., A.I., 2387, A.D., 1857,

TO THE

SECOND ANNUAL CONVOCATION, HELD AT THE
CITY OF LONDON, C.W.,

On the third Wednesday, the 16th day of February, A. D., 1859.



Ordered to be Read in all Chapters and Preserved.

ADDRESS :

THOMAS DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, TORONTO, GRAND Z.

THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, HAMILTON, G. SCRIBE, E.

HAMILTON :

PRINTED AT THE "SPECTATOR" OFFICE, COURT HOUSE SQUARE,
1859.

PROCEEDINGS OF A CONVENTION
OF
Royal Arch Masons of Canada,
HELD
IN THE MASONIC HALL, HAMILTON,
On the 19th day of January, A.D. 1859.

At a Convention of Delegates from the Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held at the City of Hamilton, on Monday the 19th day of January, A. I. 2387, A. D. 1857, convened by a Circular, for the purpose of considering the present state of Royal Arch Masonry in the Province of Canada and to decide upon and take the necessary steps for its future welfare and prosperity,—

The following Representatives from duly warranted Chapters were

PRESENT.

E. Comp. Kivas Tully, Past Z., St. John's Chapter, Toronto.
" Thomas Duggan, P. Z., The Hiram Chapter, Hamilton.
" Charles Magill, Past Z., " "
" John Harris, Z., " "
" Thos. B. Harris, Z., St. John's Chapter, "
Comp. W. C. Stephens.
" Richard Bull.
" Wm. M. Wilson.

It was, on motion, unanimously Resolved—

That Companion, the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Col. William M. Wilson, take the Chair, and

That E. Companion C. Magill, Past Z., be requested to act as Secretary to the Convention.

The Convention having been thus constitutionally organised, and the subject for which it had been called having been introduced by Companion the Most Worshipful Grand Master, after mature deliberation, the following Preamble was unanimously adopted :—

PREAMBLE.

That the absence in the Province of a supreme authority for regulating the affairs of Royal Arch Masonry, having long been attended with serious inconveniences to the Order, and the Grand Lodge of Canada having been legally and constitutionally established on a firm and permanent basis,—

BE IT RESOLVED,—

To recommend to an adjourned meeting of Royal Arch Masons, to be held on Tuesday the 20th instant, at the Masonic Hall in the said City of Hamilton, with the concurrence of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Canada, at once to proceed in the establishment of a Grand Royal Arch Chapter for Canada, on the following conditions :

That the Constitution of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of England be adopted, *mutatis mutandis*, as its Constitution, and be taken as the guide in the arrangement of the various offices of this Grand Chapter, with the following reservations :—

That the principle established by the Grand Lodge of Canada of making the principal offices annually elective, be adopted by this Grand Chapter.

That in order to assimilate with the usages of Royal Arch

Masonry in the United States, the three degrees not recognized by the Grand Chapter of England, viz :

The Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master Masons degrees, shall be taken by all persons, to entitle them to be admitted to membership in any Chapter under this jurisdiction, but that Royal Arch Masons who may have taken their degrees in any regularly warranted Chapter under any other jurisdiction, may be admitted as visitors to any Chapter in this Province, when working in the Royal Arch degree, or in any degree which such visitor may have taken under a regularly warranted Lodge or Chapter, and that in conformity with the foregoing recommendation, the M.W., the Grand Master, be the First Grand Principal, Z., or the R.W. D. G. M., be the Second Grand Principal, H., the other Officers being left to the discretion of the Convention.

The Meeting adjourned, to meet at six o'clock P. M. to-morrow.

The Convention re-assembled at the Masonic Hall, on Tuesday, January the 20th, 1857, at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The following Chapters were duly represented :—

THE HIRAM CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

E. Comp. Thos. Duggan,	P. Z.
“ “ C. Magill,	“ “

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, LONDON.

E. Comp. Thomas Francis,	Z.
“ “ Joseph F. Rolfe,	P. Z.
“ William Daniell,	H.

ST. JOHN'S CHAPTER, HAMILTON.

E. Comp. Thos. B. Harris,	Z.
“ J. R. Holden,	H.

E. Comp. Kivas Tully,	P. Z.
-----------------------	-------

COMPANIONS — W. C. Stephens, W. M. Wilson, Richard Bull, James Riddell, Henry Grist, J. M. Rogerson, Mills, Harley, and others.

The Convention was presided over by E. Companion Thos. Duggan, P. 1st P. Z., who called on the Secretary to read the Circular issued to the various Chapters in the Province.

The proceedings of the preceding evening were read, and unanimously adopted.

It was, on motion, Resolved,

That the Title of the Grand Chapter shall be—

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons OF CANADA.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That a Grand Chapter be, and is hereby declared established on the Constitution recommended in the Minutes of the Convention of Royal Arch Masons, now read.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the Grand Chapter do proceed to the election of Grand Officers to hold Office till their successors are elected, invested and installed.

The following Companions were declared duly elected :

M. E. Comp.	W. M. Wilson,	Grand	Z.
R. “	“	A. Bernard,	“
R. “	“	Thos. Duggan,	J.
“ “	“	Thos. B. Harris,	“
“ “	“	Wm. Daniell,	“
“ “	“	Wm. Bellhouse,	“
“ “	“	J. Morrison,	“
			Scribe, E.
			N.
			Treasurer.
			Janitor.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the following be a Committee to make the necessary arrangements for the installation, and for conducting all other matters that may be required for the proper management of all business connected with the Grand Chapter :—

E. Companions Thomas B. Harris, Thomas Duggan and Comp. Richard Bull.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the amount to be paid for a Dispensation, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Canada, shall be Forty Dollars, and for a Chapter Warrant, an additional sum of Ten Dollars.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That no Candidate shall be exalted for a less consideration than Twenty Dollars, in any Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada.

The Convention adjourned till such time as arrangements had been perfected for the consecration of the Grand Chapter, and the installation of the Grand Officers elect.

APRIL 2nd, 1857.

The Convention of Royal Arch Masons re-assembled at the Masonic Hall, in the City of Hamilton, on the 2nd day of April, A.D. 1857, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT :

E. Companion Thomas Duggan, presiding.

Comp. Thos. B. Harris.	Comp. William Bellhouse.
“ W. M. Wilson.	“ William T. Thomas.
“ S. B. Campbell.	“ Henry Grist.
“ C. Kelly.	“ F. J. Rastrick.
“ J. B. Mathews.	“ W. A. Harley.
“ J. E. Smith.	“ Edmund Kelly.
“ Col. Whitehead.	“ J. Taylor.
“ J. M. Rogerson.	“ — Shears.
“ James Riddell.	“ T. C. Prosser.
“ R. A. Woodcock.	“ A. De Grassi.
“ J. W. Baine.	“ J. Hodgson.
“ John Austin.	“ G. L. Allen.
“ W. C. Morrison.	“ William Irwin.
“ J. McKeown.	“ Joseph A. Fisher.
“ Isaac Chillman.	“ W. C. Stephens.

And a number of Brethren.

The Committee appointed to make the necessary arrangements for the installation of the Grand Officers elect, of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada,

REPORTED,—

That M. E. Companion Czar Jones, Past Grand High Priest of the state of Michigan, had kindly undertaken to perform the requisite ceremonies and was now in attendance for that purpose. He was then introduced by the Committee, and took his seat in the East, and duly installed and invested the following Grand Officers elect, in their respective offices :—

M. E. Comp.	W. M. Wilson,	Grand	Z.
R. “	“	A. Bernard,	“ H.
“ “	“	Thomas Duggan,	“ J.
“ “	“	Thos. B. Harris,	“ Scribe, E.
“ “	“	Wm. Daniell,	“ “ N.
“ “	“	W. Bellhouse,	“ Treasurer.
	“	J. Morrison,	“ Janitor.

The Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada was then proclaimed by the Grand Marshall duly installed, and the Grand Officers invested with the usual Masonic honors.

The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form, with solemn prayer.

THOS. B. HARRIS,
G. Scribe, E.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Convocation, of the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Canada, held at the City of Montreal, on the 9th day of July, A.D. 1857.

PRESENT :

M. E. Comp.	William M. Wilson,	Grand	Z.
R. “ “	A. Bernard,	“	H.
“ “ “	Thomas Duggan,	“	J.
	on the Throne.		
“ “ “	Thomas B. Harris,	“	Scribe, E.
“ “ “	William Bellhouse,	“	Treasurer.
	J. Hannah,	“	Janitor.

E. Comp.	C. Magill.	E. Comp.	Kivas Tully.
“	A. S. Abbott.	“	Richard Bull.
E. “	G. L. Allen.	“	S. B. Campbell.
“	James Moffatt.	E. “	Thompson Wilson.
E. “	J. Rolfe.	“	J. E. Smith.
“	Edward Garratt.	“	D. Brown.
“	W. H. Miller.	“	J. Scott.

Visiting Companion M. Mitchell, Lafayette Chapter, Vermont.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, with solemn prayer.

The proceedings at the Convention were read, and, on motion, confirmed.

It was moved by R. E. Companion Thos. Duggan, seconded by E. Companion Kivas Tully, and unanimously Resolved,—

That E. Companion Michael Furnell, of North Munster, Ireland, be constituted an honorary member of this Grand Chapter.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the M. E. Grand Z. be requested to name a Committee for the purpose of drafting a suitable address, the same to be sent to all the Grand Chapters.

The M. E. Grand Z., nominated R. E. Companions T. B. Harris, W. C. Stephens and Thos. Duggan such Committee.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the M. E. Grand Z, be requested to name a Committee to amend the constitution.

M. E. Grand Z, appointed the following Companions to the one already named :—

E. Comp. Kivas Tully, Campbell and Allen, of Toronto.

“ T. Wilson and J. Rolfe, of London.

and to report at the first Special Emergency.

The Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, when the following were duly elected.

M. E. Comp. W. M. Wilson, Grand Z.

R. E. “ Joseph Scott, “ H.

“ “ Thos. Duggan, “ J.

“ “ Thos. B. Harris, “ Scribe E.

“ “ Wm. Bellhouse, “ Treasurer.

“ J. Morrison, “ Janitor.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That a Warrant be issued for King Solomon's Chapter, Toronto.

The M. E. Grand Z. intimated that an Especial Emergency would be held at the City of London.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed according to ancient form.

The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form, with solemn prayer.

THOS. B. HARRIS,

G. Scribe, E.

P R O C E E D I N G S

At an Especial Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of
Canada, held at the City of London, on the 8th day of October,
1857.

P R E S E N T.

M. E. Comp.	Wm. M. Wilson,	Grand Z.
R. E.	" Thompson Wilson,	as " H.
" "	" Thos. Duggan,	" J.
	on the Throne.	
"	Thos. B. Harris,	" Scribe E.
"	James Daniell,	" " N.
"	Thos. Francis,	" Principal Sojourner.
"	Kivas Tully,	" 1st Assist. "
"	Wm. Muir,	" 2nd " "
	Thos. McMullen,	" Janitor.

Comp. George Taylor.	Comp. Thomas Allen.
" George Perkins.	" J. W. Scobell.
" W. C. L. Gill.	" William G. Chambers.
" P. Worthington.	" J. M. MacKenzie.
" Thomas Thomas.	" D. McInnes.
" A. S. Abbott.	" William Daniell.
" John Keary.	" William Gordon.
" J. Smith.	" W. Hayforth.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, with solemn prayer.

The M. E. Grand Z. informed the Grand Chapter that he had summoned them together for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Committees on Address and Constitution, and to proceed with all unfinished business.

The Grand Scribe, E., read the Minutes of an Especial Convocation held at Montreal, which were on motion confirmed.

The Committee appointed at the last convocation, for the purpose of drafting an address to be forwarded to all the Grand Chapters, submit the following

ADDRESS :

To the Most Excellent Grand Chiefs, the Grand Officers and Companions of the Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons :

WE, the Grand Principals, Grand Officers, and Companions of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada, with fraternal regards,

SEND GREETING :

In accordance with ancient usage, and earnestly desirous of cultivating and cementing those feelings of fraternal union, the practice of which has not only rendered our Order illustrious throughout the world, but has also ensured its permanency and efficiency, the GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF CANADA feel it to be their bounden duty to prepare and forward to the recognised authorities of the Royal Craft, situated without the boundaries of this jurisdiction, a statement of the principal reasons which led to the organisation of a controlling power over Royal Arch Masonry in this Province, and at the same time to communicate to them the fact of such organisation.

The absence from our Chapters of that harmony and prosperity, which should ever distinguish the proceedings of Royal Arch Masons, induced many of our more zealous companions to institute a careful inquiry into the causes which had contributed to the apparent decline of the Royal Craft in Canada, and it soon became evident that this was solely to be attributed to the diversity of interests and to the want of uniformity, in work and action, existing among the various Chapters in this Province ; these Bodies holding warrants from different Grand Chapters and working under different constitutions, neither assimilated in their views nor feelings ; their funds were drained, and their usefulness diminished, by the transmission of the required fees to their Parent Grand Chapters, they were thus left unable to meet the claims made by distressed Companions hailing from the various Chapters of Europe and America.

In addition to these obstacles it may also be remarked, the system of work authorised by the Grand Chapter of England does not recognise the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, and Most Excellent Master ; and the Chapters in this Province were thus placed in a most embarrassing situation, as the work performed by them in these several degrees was not only contrary to, but inconsistent with, the rules and regulations of that Grand Chapter ; while, on the other hand, the Chapters in the United States of America absolutely required that all visitors should have previously received these degrees before they could be admitted.

Taking these circumstances into consideration, and with a view to obviate the difficulties under which the Royal Craft labored in this Province, a Circular was addressed to the Chapters holding Warrants attached to Lodges affiliating with the Grand Lodge of Canada, requiring them to send duly qualified Representatives to a Convention, to be held at the City of Hamilton, on the 19th day of January, A.D. 1857.

The Convention having assembled at the time and place appointed and a constitutional number of Chapters being represented by their properly qualified Officers, the whole subject was taken into serious consideration and it was unanimously Resolved,—That it was expedient and necessary to establish an Independent governing power over Royal Arch Masonry in Canada.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada having thus been formed in accordance with universal usages was then duly established, a constitution requiring that the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master, should be conferred on all candidates previous to their being exalted to the Royal Arch degree, or admitted to membership, was adopted and the following Companions were elected as Grand Officers:—
M. E. Companion Wm. Mercer Wilson, Grand 1st Principal, Z. ;
R. E. Companion Dr. A. Bernard, Grand 2nd Principal, H. ;
R. E. Companion Dr. Thomas Duggan, Grand 3rd Principal, J. ;
and Comps. of ability to the other Offices of the Grand Chapter.

The Convention was again summoned to meet at Hamilton on the 2nd day of April, A.D. 1857, upon which occasion the Grand Officers elect were regularly installed and proclaimed, in Ancient form, by M. E. Companion Czar Jones, Past Grand High Priest of the State of Michigan.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Canada having been thus duly formed, and being engaged with yourselves in promulgating the genuine principles of the Royal Craft, and feeling, at the same time, earnestly desirous of cultivating a friendly intercourse with your distinguished body, cordially extend to you the right hand of fellowship and confidently claim from your Grand Chapter a fraternal recognition.

*Signed on behalf of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of
Canada,*

[L. S.]

WM. M. WILSON, Z.

THOS. B. HARRIS,

G. S., E.

On motion the report was received and adopted.

The Committee on Constitution not being ready to make a report, asked leave to continue their deliberations, which was concurred in.

It was, on motion, Resolved,—

That the Regular Annual Convocation be held on the third Wednesday in February, in each and every year.

It was Resolved,—

That the next Special Meeting of the Grand Chapter be held on the third Wednesday in January next, at Toronto, for the purpose of receiving the report of the Committee on Constitution.

The M. E. Grand Z. was pleased to make the following appointments to office for the ensuing Masonic term :—

V. E. Comp.	J. R. Rolfe,	Grand Scribe, N.
"	" J. E. Smith,	" Principal Sojourner.
"	" Thos. Francis,	" 1st Assist. "
"	" Jas. Moffatt,	" 2nd " "
"	" John Harris,	" Sword Bearer.
"	" S. B. Campbell,	" Dir. of Ceremonies.
"	" J. G. McKenzie,	" Organist.
"	" H. B. Bostwick,	" Pursuivant.

The Grand Chapter was closed in ample form, with solemn prayer.

THOS. B. HARRIS,
G. Scribe, E.

SPCL HS 719 C2 A3 1857-65

